

Minutes of the Tuesday, September 7, 2010 CTEC Meeting

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:15 pm on Tuesday, September 7, 2010 at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members K. Abbott, R. Barrett, L. Caprioglio, S. Carroll, P. Collington, F. Esposito, S. Hoag, O. Raadam, and D. Stillinger.

CTEC'S PURPOSE: to undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2010 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building and mentioned on the Chatham Township website at www.chathamtownship.org. It has been sent to the Chatham Courier and Daily Record newspapers. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings, join the discussions and participate in projects.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

F. Esposito motioned to approve CTEC and Green Team minutes from August 3, 2010 and O. Raadam 2nd with all in favor, with one minor edit.

CTEC AND GREEN TEAM MEETING DATES FOR 2010 AND JANUARY 2011.

Every first Tuesday, except no meeting in July, at 7:15 PM at the Chatham Township municipal building. The dates are Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1, July no meeting, Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7, 2010 and Jan 11, 2011.

The CTEC had a moment of silence for former township engineer Michael Bennett who passed away on August 21, 2010.

EVENTS

- Tuesday, September 7, 8 AM. SEAMLESS. Madison Library, Chase Room.
- Saturday, September 11, 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Green Fair of the Chathams. Gazebo in Chatham Borough.
- Date TBA, 10 AM. Ground Water Protection Committee. Willow Hall, Morristown.
- Wednesday, September 29, 8-9:30 AM and again at 7-8:30 PM (same info at each session). Morris County Green Table Forum, GIS - a web based public land management tool. Morris County Public Safety Training Academy. Free.
- Saturday through Tuesday, October 2-5, 2010. Land Trust Alliance Rally 2010. Hartford, CT. landtrustalliance.org.
- Tuesday, October 5, 8 AM. SEAMLESS. Madison Library, Chase Room.
- Tuesday, October 5. Ground Water Summit. Hanover Manor in East Hanover. Topic: Road salt.
- Friday, October 15, 2010. ANJEC Environmental Congress, Brookdale Community College, Lincroft. Speakers will include Christopher Daggett, head of the Dodge Foundation and former DEP Commissioner, and Robert Martin, current DEP Commissioner.

GRANTS

- A Sustainable Jersey grant funded by Walmart for \$25,000 was awarded to CTEC for Township school food composting program. Congratulations to Pat Collington for initiating and writing grant.
- New Jersey American Water awarded a \$5,000 grant to the Community Education and Outreach Committee plus an additional \$600 grant for the purchase of rain barrels.

REPORTS

GREEN TEAM MEETING (convened 7:26 pm – adjourned 7:37 pm)

S. Carroll, Green Team Chair.

- Reviewed criteria for submission certification. CTEC members contact information will be updated to receive email notices from Sustainable Jersey. A \$25,000 Grant was received from Sustainable Jersey which was funded by Walmart. This grant was implemented by Pat Collington. Grant will be used for food composting programs at a Chatham Township school. Discussed and reviewed results of the tax mailing insert which was to gauge interest of residents in various recycling programs. Total of 20 received.

DISCUSSION

Township recycling. The Township Committee has requested that CTEC analyze the current Township system of recycling and develop a recommendation for possible changes.

Chatham Township pays for curbside recycling, contracted with MCMUA, and MCMUA has stated that the cost for curbside collection will be the same whether or not you have a recycling center such as Tanglewood. In other words, if you eliminate your recycling center, the Township will not save any money under their contract.

CTEC discussed this issue at length and concluded that the Township Committee needs to review their recycling contract. The committee feels there are several issues that should be addressed. P. Collington will draft a bullet list of the positive issues discussed, the memo will be circulated to CTEC members for edits and reviews before submission to Township Committee.

- Open Space Committee report. Township Committee approved and submitted four applications to the County for funding of open space properties. These properties can be used as recreational areas and hiking/talking trails. The Open Space plan has been completed and will be discussed within that committee. There will be a new open space map drawn. Two new members have been appointed. S. Hoag
- Planning Board report. Elected new chairperson, vice chair and secretary. Land use element being discussed. Planner working on draft. L. Caprioglio
- Township Committee report. Mr. O'Connor will no longer be attending CTEC meetings. D. Stillinger
- Community Education and Outreach Committee report 2010 Green Fair – Saturday, September 2nd, 9-2, volunteers, vendors, entertainment arranged. P. Collington, K. Abbott, R. Barrett
- Recycling Committee Report. ANJEC facilitated webinar on August 23 attended by R. Barrett and F. Esposito on large appliance recycling, both concluded that webinar was not what they expected.
<http://www.njcleanenergy.com/residential/programs/refrigerator-freezer-recycling-program>.
Working refrigerators and freezers are eligible until the end of 2010. Pickup is provided as well as a \$50 incentive.
- Website Committee report. At a recent township committee meeting W. O'Connor complimented Frank Esposito on a excellent job. Frank will update and archive photos from recent events. F. Esposito.

DISCUSSION/ACTIONS

- Water conservation plan in condominiums. Waiting to hear back from state for financial support concerning remote meters, looking into back data for comparison. R. Barrett.
- Possible resolution for Township Committee to pass that says that at Township public events, the distribution or sale of bottled water should be avoided or even banned. CTEC reviewed and concluded that this ordinance would never pass at this time.
- Model Wellhead Protection Ordinance. The Passaic River Coalition in cooperation with the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority has developed a model wellhead protection ordinance that they are urging towns to adopt. Still pursuing, further research is necessary.

ISSUES

Ten Towns Committee/Great Swamp Watershed Association ROW vegetation management plan. The Ten Towns Committee dissolved on June 30 and turned over some of its functions to GSWA. K. Abbott and D. Stillinger along with Steve Mountain, Mendham Township Administrator, and members of the GSWA Land Use Committee will meet again with representatives from PSE&G and JCP&L to evaluate progress toward a mutually agreeable watershed-wide plan. If no such plan is forthcoming CTEC, as one of the municipalities most affected, will contact the other towns along the proposed Branchburg-Roseland ROW to discuss next steps. Meeting in October.

APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW

CLOSED. Wetlands Application for GP25 for septic upgrade. V. Liccolella, 489 Green Village Rd. Bl. 48.21 Lot 171, general permit authorization, cutting of trees for placement of building. NO ACTION REQUIRED BY CTEC

CLOSED. LOI dated 6-18-10 for 342 Green Village Road (B144 L39.04, Shue) for general permit for cutting of trees, placement of pavement. Property backs up to the Township-owned property with the NJCF conservation easement. NO ACTION REQUIRED BY CTEC

PENDING. Application to the Planning Board dated 6-10-10 for minor subdivision for two houses, Bhee Properties, 697 Fairmount Avenue, B 61, L 10, R-3 (half acre) zone. Asking for large variances - for 3 story buildings where 2 1/2 stories are allowed, for major usable lot area reduction, for major steep slope disturbances. Propose Sunset Drive addresses for the new lots. Plans are on top of the CDS plans in our meeting room.

PENDING. Application to Board of Adjustment, application complete on 7-22-10, 28 Ormont Road, Block 8, lot 4, Gunn. Steep slope, front & rear yard variances to construct a single family dwelling. Hearing on 9-16-10. CTEC will comment, still premature at this time.

PENDING. Board of Adjustment agenda for August 19 includes two applications we have been tracking: the Farm at Green Village for expansion of a building and construction of a restroom, and the property at 27 Susan Drive with extreme steep slopes. We have commented on the Farm application and don't have anything new to add. Premature to comment at this time.

PENDING. LONGVIEW/FENIX. Longview Road. April 26, 2010. Block 32 Lots 2, 6 and 8, Block 33, Lots 1, 14, 17 and 20. Ronald Gunn concept plan for 8 lot subdivision on Longview Road. Premature to comment at this time.

PENDING APPLICATION AND LOI. CHATHAM DAY SCHOOL. 700 Shunpike Road. 4-5-10. Block 135, Lots 1 & 9. Application to DEP for LOI to determine extent of wetlands. Part of lot in southwest area may lie within buffer of wetlands across Shunpike. Letter sent to DEP.

RECENT LETTERS SENT

- May 2010. Letter to DEP regarding Chatham Day School application for LOI, letter to DEP regarding Texas Eastern application for wetlands permits.

MAIL RECEIVED

- Minutes of meetings of Chatham Borough and Long Hill Environmental Commissions.
- Various flyers, notices, and newsletters.

ADJOURN

CTEC MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:25 PM.

Carolyn Scannelli
Minutes Secretary